

## Message Text

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11

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-05 EB-07

COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 MC-02 /073 W

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P R 091641Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1014

DOD WASHDC PRIORITY

OSAF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN

CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AB

AFSC ANDREWS AFB

ASD WPAFB OH/YP

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 1632

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS DA

SUBJ: LIGTHWEIGHT FIGHTER: DEFENSE COMMITTEE VOTES  
FOR F-16 PURCHASE

REFS: COPENHAGEN 1607, 1590 AND 1581

SUMMARY: THE PARLIAMENTARY DEFENSE COMMITTEE THIS  
AFTERNOON, JUNE 9, OVERWHELMINGLY APPROVED THE PURCHASE  
OF THE F-16. ALTHOUGH BELGIAN DELAY IN ANNOUNCING ITS  
DECISION CAUSED A MOMENTARY WEAKENING IN THE SOCIAL DEMO-  
CRATIC PARLIAMENTARY GROUP'S RESOLVE OVER THE WEEKEND,  
THE PARTY RECOVERED THIS MORNING AND UNANIMOUSLY (WITH  
ONE EXCEPTION) BACKED THE DECISION TO PURCHASE THE F-16.

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THE ENABLING RESOLUTION IS EXPECTED TO PASS WITH A LARGE

MAJOIRTY IN SECOND AND FINAL READING JUNE 11. DEMONSTRATION  
JUNE 10 BY ANTI-PLANE FORCES MAY BE LARGE BUT WILL HAVE NO  
INFLUENCE ON PARLIAMENTARY VOTE. END SUMMARY.

1) THE DEFENSE COMMITTEE THIS AFTERNOON (JUNE 9) VOTED  
TO RECOMMEND ADOPTION OF THE ENABLING RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING  
PURCHASE OF THE F-16. THE VOTE, WHILE CONFIDENTIAL  
AND UNOFFICIAL, WAS 13 (SOCIAL DEMOCRATS, LIBERALS,  
CONSERVATIVES, CHRISTIAN PEOPLES, AND CENTER DEMOCRATS)  
TO 4 (COMMUNISTS, SOCIALIST PEOPLE'S PARTY, RADICALS, AND  
ONE PROGRESS PARTY REPRESENTATIVE). SINCE REPRESENTATIVES  
ON THE COMMITTEE MUST REPORT ON THE ANTICIPATED VOTE OF THEIR  
PARTIES, THIS ASSURES A MAJORITY OF APPROXIMATELY 123 VOTES  
IN FAVOR WHEN THE RESOLUTION IS GIVEN ITS FINAL READING  
JUNE 11.

2) THE TWO-DAY BELGIAN DELAY IN ACCOUNCING ITS DECISION  
HAD REPERCUSSIONS IN THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY GROUP  
HERE. AT A LONG MEETING JUNE 6, THE PRO-VIGGEN  
MINORITY PUSHED FOR RELAXATION OF THE PARTY WHIP TO PERMIT  
THEIR VOTING ACCORDING TO PERSONAL CONVICTION IN THE FINAL,  
SECOND READING VOTE. AS PRIME MINISTER JORGENSEN WAS NOT  
PRESENT AND ONLY ONE HALF TO ONE THIRD OF THE PARLIAMENTARY  
GROUP ATTENDED THE CHAIRMAN WAS COMPELLED TO PROMISE AN  
ADDITIONAL GROUP MEETING ON THE PLANE PURCHASE. AT THE  
SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC GROUP'S RECONVENED MEETING THIS MORNING  
(JUNE 9) WITH JORGENSEN PRESENT STRICT DISCIPLINE WAS  
REIMPOSED AND ALL REQUESTS TO VOTE INDIVIDUALLY WERE  
REFUSED WITH THE EXCEPTION OF ONE MEMBER (BRITTE WEISS)  
WHO HAD PUBLICLY ANNOUNCED HER INTENTION TO OPPOSE.  
FOLLOWING THIS MEETING, THE DEFENSE COMMITTEE MET FOR  
ITS VOTE REPORTED ABOVE.

3) PUBLIC REACTION IN DENMARK TO THE FAVORABLE BELGIAN  
DECISION WAS REMARKABLY LOW KEY. THE PRESS, A  
LARGE PROPORTION OF WHICH HAS FAVORED THE VIGGEN IN  
VARYING DEGREES BURIED THE STORY ON SECOND OR THIRD PAGES.  
DEFENSE MINISTER MOLLER WAS THE ONLY PUBLIC FIGURE TO  
COMMENT. HE STATED: "ALMOST TWO YEARS' WORK HAS BEEN  
CONCLUDED. ONE OF THE FIRST STEPS TOWARD STANDARDIZATION  
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OF DEFENSE MATERIAL INSIDE NATO'S EURO-GROUP HAS NOW BEEN  
TAKEN." THE RESPECTED DEFENSE AFFAIRS COMMENTATOR, NILS  
JORGEN HAAGERUP, TOOK A SIMILAR LINE IN BERLINGSKE  
TIDENDE.

4. THE COMMUNIST INITIATED AND  
COORDINATED DEMONSTRATION WILL TAKE PLACE OUTSIDE  
PARLIAMENT JUNE 10. THE PARTY'S CAMPAIGN OPPOSING THE

AIRCRAFT PURCHASE HAS REPORTEDLY SECURED 100,000 SIGNATURES. THE DEMONSTRATION, CONSEQUENTLY, MAY BE SUBSTANTIAL AND WILL CERTAINLY BE COLORFUL. ALSO SUPPORTING THE ANTI-PLANE DEMONSTRATION ARE THE SOCIALIST PEOPLE'S PARTY, THE LEFT SOCIALISTS, THE RADICAL PARTY YOUTH ORGANIZATION, AS WELL AS THE DANISH STUDENT FEDERATION, THE DANISH YOUTH COUNCIL, THE COMMITTEE AGAINST NATO, AND A NUMBER OF TRADE UNION GROUPS. THE DEMONSTRATION WILL BE A MEASURE OF ANTI-NATO SENTIMENT IN DENMARK BUT WILL NOT HAVE ANY INFLUENCE ON THE PARLIAMENTARY VOTE THE FOLLOWING DAY.  
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